

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 ANKARA 04833 241441Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 EURE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00
INRE-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00
NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 SSC-01 SSM-03
EB-07 COME-00 TRSE-00 /076 W
-----075597 241442Z /43

O R 241410Z JUN 77
FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7955
INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY NICOSIA
AMCONSUL ADANA
AMCONSUL ISTANBUL
AMCONSUL IZMIR
USMISSION NATO
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
USDOCOSOUTH NAPLES
EUCOM
USCINCEUR
CINCUSAFE
USDOCOLANDSOUTHEAST IZMIR
DIA WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L ANKARA 4833

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT, TU
SUBJECT: IMPRESSIONS OF ECEVIT'S CABINET

1. IT IS POPULARLY BELIEVED IN ANKARA THAT PRIMIN ECEVIT WAS
CAUGHT BY SURPRISE WHEN PRESIDENT KORUTURK APPROVED THE
FORMATION OF A GOVERNMENT DURING THEIR JUNE 21 MEETING. ECEVIT
ALLEGEDLY HAD NOT BROUGHT A CABINET LIST WITH HIM AND WAS FORCED
TO DRAW ONE UP DURING THE MEETING. EVEN IF THIS STORY IS
TRUE, THERE IS NO DOUBT THAT ECEVIT HAD GIVEN EXTENSIVE
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 ANKARA 04833 241441Z

THOUGHT TO THE COMPOSITION OF HIS CABINET BEFOREHAND. IT IS
A CAREFULLY BALANCED COLLECTION OF OLD AND NEW FACES CHOSEN TO
MAXIMIZE SUPPORT AND MINIMIZE CONTROVERSY. THE ASSIGNMENT
OF MODERATE OR UNKNOWN FIGURES TO SENSITIVE POSITIONS (E.G.
ERVERDI TO JUSTICE RATHER THAN THE LEFTIST LAWYER SENATOR UGUR
ALACAKAPTAN, AKMANDOR TO ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES INSTEAD
OF CAHIT KAYRA OR TEOMAN KOPRULULER) IS DESIGNED TO CALM FEARS

THAT AN ECEVIT GOVERNMENT MIGHT IMMEDIATELY EMBARK ON A SERIES OF RADICAL CHANGES. SIMILARLY, THE NAMING OF LUTFI DOGAN, A RESPECTED THEOLOGIAN, TO THE POSITION OF MINISTER OF STATE SEEMS CALCULATED TO MAXIMIZE THE POSSIBILITY OF ATTRACTING SUPPORT FROM CONSERVATIVE DEPUTIES.

2. IN A CONVERSATION WITH EMBOFF JUNE 23 SENATOR ALACAKAPTAN CONFIRMED THAT THE CABINET LIST HAD BEEN DRAWN UP WITH THE VOTE OF CONFIDENCE IN MIND. IF THAT VOTE IS WON, HE SAID, CHANGES WILL BE MADE IN THE CABINET IN ORDER TO STRENGTHEN IT. IT WAS CLEAR FROM THE CONTEXT OF THE CONVERSATION THAT ALACAKAPTAN EXPECTS TO BE ONE OF THOSE "STRENGTHENING" ELEMENTS.

3. HOWEVER, TO CONFRONT HIS MOST PRESSING PROBLEMS ECEVIT HAS ALREADY ASSEMBLED FAIRLY STRONG AND EXPERIENCED TEAMS. EFFORTS TO RESTORE DOMESTIC SECURITY WILL BE THE PRIORITY GOAL OF THE GOVERNMENT. THIS TASK HAS BEEN ASSIGNED A GROUP OF MINISTERS-- UGUR (INTERIOR), ERVERDI (JUSTICE), USTUNDAG (EDUCATION) AND CAKMUR (YOUTH AND SPORTS) -- UNDER THE DIRECTION OF DEPUTY PRIMER EYUBOGLU. BOTH UGUR AND EYUBOGLU ARE FORMER CAREER POLICE OFFICIALS AND CAN THEREFORE COUNT ON THE GENERAL RESPECT AND SUPPORT OF THE SECURITY FORCES.

4. TO ATTACK TURKEY'S ECONOMIC WOES, ECEVIT HAS NAMED AN EXPERIENCED AND SOPHISTICATED TRIO OF MINISTERS--BULUTOGLU (STATE--WITH GENERAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR INTERNATIONAL
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 ANKARA 04833 241441Z

ECONOMIC RELATIONS), USTUNEL (FINANCE) AND MUEZZINOGLU (COMMERCE). BOTH BULUTOGLU AND USTUNEL ARE FORMER ACADEMICIANS WHO HAVE ALSO HAD OUTSIDE EXPERIENCE--BULUTOGLU AT THE IBRD AND USTUNEL AT THE STATE PLANNING OFFICE. MUEZZINOGLU, A SUCCESSFUL CAREER CIVIL SERVANT IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE, LATER SERVED AS AMBASSADOR TO BONN AND AS MINISTER OF FINANCE IN THE MELEN GOVERNMENT OF 1972.

5. IN SUMMARY, IN FORMING HIS GOVERNMENT PRIMER ECEVIT TRIED TO ASSEMBLE A GROUP OF MINISTERS WHICH WOULD (A) BE ABLE TO WIN A VOTE OF CONFIDENCE AND (B) BE ABLE TO DEAL WITH THE TWO MAJOR DOMESTIC PROBLEMS REQUIRING HIS IMMEDIATE ATTENTION. OUR INITIAL REACTION IS THAT HIS CABINET IS WELL-DESIGNED FOR THESE PURPOSES. WHETHER IT WILL BE SUCCESSFUL IS ANOTHER QUESTION. THE THREE MAJOR OPPOSITION PARTIES APPEAR TO BE STANDING FAST AND IF THEY CONTINUE TO DO SO, ECEVIT WILL NOT WIN HIS VOTE OF CONFIDENCE. ON THE OTHER HAND, IMPORTANT ELEMENTS OF TURKISH SOCIETY ARE ARRAYED IN SUPPORT OF ECEVIT. MOST OF THE PRESS, VIRTUALLY ALL INTELLECTUALS AND A SUBSTANTIAL NUMBER OF MAJOR INDUSTRIALISTS ARE OPENLY SUPPORTING ECEVIT AND TRYING TO PERSUADE OTHERS TO DO SO. ONE FORMER JUSTICE PARTY POLITICIAN-TURNED-ACADEMI-

CIAN TOLD AN EMBOFF JUNE 23 THAT HE HAD TALKED TO SOME OF
HIS FORMER COLLEAGUES URGING THEM TO BREAK RANK AND VOTE FOR
ECEVIT "FOR THE GOOD OF THE COUNTRY." THEY HAD AGREED IN
PRINCIPLE, HE SAID, BUT HE WAS NOT HOPEFUL THEY WOULD
ACTUALLY DEFY DEMIREL WHEN THE TIME CAME. AT THIS POINT
THE ONLY PREDICTION THAT CAN BE MADE ABOUT THE VOTE OF
CONVINCENCE IS THAT IT WILL BE VERY CLOSE.
DILLON

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CABINET, PERSONNEL APPOINTMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 24-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977ANKARA04833
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770226-0918
Format: TEL
From: ANKARA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770620/aaaaarog.tel
Line Count: 124
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 94664977-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 26-Jan-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2039868
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: IMPRESSIONS OF ECEVIT'S CABINET
TAGS: PINT, PGOV, TU
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/94664977-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009